

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

**Claims 1-12 (cancelled)**

1           **Claim 13 (new):** A device for preventing an incorrect  
2     insertion of a cartridge into a cartridge storage space,  
3     the cartridge including an information recording medium  
4     disposed within a housing, the housing having at least one  
5     of a recessed part and a through hole disposed at a  
6     position other than a central position of the housing, said  
7     device comprising:  
8           a claw operable to protrude into the recessed part or  
9     the through hole of the cartridge only when the cartridge  
10    is inserted into the cartridge storage space in a correct  
11    orientation; and  
12           a stopper operable to work with said claw such that  
13    when said claw protrudes into the recessed part or the  
14    through hole of the cartridge, said stopper is disposed to  
15    allow the cartridge to be inserted and stored in the  
16    cartridge storage space, and when said claw does not  
17    protrude into the recessed part or the through hole of the  
18    cartridge, said stopper is disposed to prevent the  
19    cartridge from being inserted and stored in the cartridge  
20    storage space.

1           **Claim 14 (new):** A device as claimed in claim 13, the  
2 cartridge being inserted into the cartridge storage space  
3 in a correct orientation when the cartridge is inserted  
4 from a predetermined direction into the cartridge storage  
5 space.

1           **Claim 15 (new):** A device as claimed in claim 13,  
2 further comprising a joint part operable to join said claw  
3 with said stopper, said joint part being disposed to rock  
4 on a shaft as a fulcrum.

1           **Claim 16 (new):** A device as claimed in claim 13, said  
2 device further comprising a plurality of at least one of  
3 said claw and said stopper.

1           **Claim 17 (new):** A device as claimed in claim 13, said  
2 device being used with the cartridge which contains a  
3 magnetic tape reel within the housing and the recessed part  
4 or the through hole of the cartridge being used for  
5 inserting a reel base of a cartridge control device that  
6 engages with the magnetic tape reel.

1           **Claim 18 (new):** A device for preventing an incorrect  
2 insertion of a cartridge into a cartridge storage space,  
3 the cartridge including an information recording medium

4 disposed within a housing, the housing having at least one  
5 of a recessed part and a through hole disposed at a  
6 position other than a central position of the housing, said  
7 device comprising:

8 a claw operable to protrude into the recessed part or  
9 the through hole of the cartridge only when the cartridge  
10 is inserted into the cartridge storage space in a correct  
11 orientation;

12 a claw position detecting part operable to detect when  
13 said claw protrudes and does not protrude into the recessed  
14 part or the through hole of the cartridge, and output a  
15 detection result; and

16 a determining part operable to determine whether the  
17 insertion of the cartridge is in a correct orientation  
18 based on the detection result of said claw position  
19 detecting part, and output a determination result.

1 **Claim 19 (new):** A device as claimed in claim 18, the  
2 cartridge being inserted into the cartridge storage space  
3 in a correct orientation when the cartridge is inserted  
4 from a predetermined direction into the cartridge storage  
5 space.

1 **Claim 20 (new):** A device as claimed in claim 18, said  
2 determining part being operable to activate at least one  
3 of: a suspension operation to suspend the insertion; an

4 operation to inform the user of incorrect insertion; and an  
5 ejection operation to eject the cartridge from the  
6 cartridge storage space, when said determining part  
7 determines that the insertion of the cartridge is not in a  
8 correct orientation.

1       **Claim 21 (new):** A cartridge changer for performing  
2 cartridge changing and preventing an incorrect insertion of  
3 a cartridge into a cartridge storage space, the cartridge  
4 including an information recording medium disposed within  
5 a housing, the housing having at least one of a recessed  
6 part and a through hole disposed at a position other than  
7 a central position of the housing, said cartridge changer  
8 comprising:

9       a plurality of cartridge storage parts each of which  
10 includes the cartridge storage space for mounting the  
11 cartridge;

12       a moving mechanism operable to move a selected one of  
13 said plurality of cartridge storage parts from a first  
14 position, at which a user inserts the cartridge into the  
15 cartridge storage space, to a second position which is  
16 different than the first position; and

17       a device disposed in at least one of the first  
18 position, the second position, and the plurality of  
19 cartridge storage parts, said device comprising:

20                   a claw operable to protrude into the recessed  
21 part or the through hole of the cartridge only when the  
22 cartridge is inserted into the cartridge storage space in  
23 a correct orientation; and

24                   a stopper operable to work with said claw such  
25 that when said claw protrudes into the recessed part or the  
26 through hole of the cartridge, said stopper is disposed to  
27 allow the cartridge to be inserted and stored in the  
28 cartridge storage space, and when said claw does not  
29 protrude into the recessed part or the through hole of the  
30 cartridge, said stopper is disposed to prevent the  
31 cartridge from being inserted and stored in the cartridge  
32 storage space.

1           **Claim 22 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2 claim 21, the cartridge being inserted into the cartridge  
3 storage space in a correct orientation when the cartridge  
4 is inserted from its backside into the cartridge storage  
5 space.

1           **Claim 23 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2 claim 21, the second position being adjacent to a cartridge  
3 inserting point of a cartridge control device used for  
4 recording information to and/or reproducing information  
5 from the information recording medium.

1           **Claim 24 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2 claim 21, further comprising a cartridge control device  
3 disposed in a position adjacent to the second position,  
4 said cartridge control device comprising:

5           a second cartridge storage part for mounting the  
6 cartridge; and

7           a control part operable to record information to  
8 and/or reproduce information from the information recording  
9 medium.

1           **Claim 25 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2 claim 24, said cartridge control device further comprising  
3 a second device operable to prevent an incorrect insertion  
4 of the cartridge into said second cartridge storage part.

1           **Claim 26 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2 claim 25, said second device being operable to detect that  
3 the cartridge has been inserted into said second cartridge  
4 storage part in an incorrect orientation.

1           **Claim 27 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2 claim 26, the cartridge being inserted into said second  
3 cartridge storage part in a correct orientation when the  
4 cartridge is inserted from its foreside into said second  
5 cartridge storage part.

1           **Claim 28 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2 claim 25, said second device containing a projection for  
3 preventing the incorrect insertion of the cartridge into  
4 the said second cartridge storage part, wherein a notch  
5 provided on a corner of the cartridge must be aligned with  
6 said projection for correct insertion.

1           **Claim 29 (new):** A device for preventing incorrect  
2 insertion of a cartridge into a cartridge storage space,  
3 the cartridge including an information recording medium  
4 disposed within a housing and a memory module, said device  
5 comprising:

6           a management information reading part operable to  
7 perform communications with the memory module of the  
8 cartridge only when the cartridge is inserted into the  
9 cartridge storage space in a correct orientation; and

10          a determining part operable to determine whether the  
11 cartridge is inserted into the cartridge storage space in  
12 a correct orientation based on whether said management  
13 information reading part performs communications with the  
14 memory module of the cartridge, and output a determination  
15 result.

1           **Claim 30 (new):** A device as claimed in claim 29, the  
2 cartridge being inserted into the cartridge storage space

3 in a correct orientation when the cartridge is inserted  
4 from its backside into the cartridge storage space.

1 **Claim 31 (new):** A device as claimed in claim 29, said  
2 device further comprising a projection for preventing  
3 insertion of the cartridge into the cartridge storage space  
4 in an incorrect orientation, wherein a notch provided on a  
5 corner of the cartridge must be aligned with said  
6 projection for correct orientation.

1 **Claim 32 (new):** A device as claimed in claim 29,  
2 further comprising an antenna used for performing radio  
3 communications between said management information reading  
4 part and the memory module of the cartridge, said antenna  
5 being disposed such that a radio field intensity enables  
6 the radio communications between said management  
7 information reading part and the memory module only when  
8 the cartridge is inserted into the cartridge storage part  
9 in a correct orientation.

1 **Claim 33 (new):** A cartridge changer for performing  
2 cartridge changing and preventing incorrect insertion of a  
3 cartridge into a cartridge storage space, the cartridge  
4 including an information recording medium disposed within  
5 a housing and a memory module, said cartridge changer  
6 comprising:



7           a plurality of cartridge storage parts each of which  
8     includes the cartridge storage space for mounting the  
9     cartridge;

10          a moving mechanism operable to move a selected one of  
11     said plurality of cartridge storage parts from a first  
12     position. at which a user inserts the cartridge into the  
13     cartridge storage space, to a second position which is  
14     different than the first position; and

15          a device disposed in at least one of the first  
16     position, the second position, and the plurality of  
17     cartridge storage parts, said device comprising:

18                 a management information reading part operable to  
19     perform communications with the memory module of the  
20     cartridge only when the cartridge is inserted into the  
21     cartridge storage space in a correct orientation; and

22                 a determining part operable to determine whether  
23     the cartridge is inserted into the cartridge storage space  
24     in a correct orientation based on whether said management  
25     information reading part performs communications with the  
26     memory module of the cartridge, and output a determination  
27     result.

1           **Claim 34 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2     claim 33, the cartridge being inserted into the cartridge  
3     storage space in a correct orientation when the cartridge

4 is inserted from its backside into the cartridge storage  
5 space.

1       **Claim 35 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2 claim 33, said device further comprising a projection for  
3 preventing insertion of the cartridge into the cartridge  
4 storage space in an incorrect orientation, wherein a notch  
5 provided on a corner of the cartridge must be aligned with  
6 said projection for correct orientation.

1       **Claim 36 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2 claim 33, further comprising an antenna used for performing  
3 radio communications between said management information  
4 reading part and the memory module of the cartridge, said  
5 antenna being disposed such that a radio field intensity  
6 enables the radio communications between said management  
7 information reading part and the memory module only when  
8 the cartridge is inserted into the cartridge storage part  
9 in a correct orientation.

1       **Claim 37 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2 claim 33, further comprising a cartridge control device  
3 disposed in a position adjacent to the second position,  
4 said cartridge control device comprising:  
5       a second cartridge storage part for mounting the  
6 cartridge; and

7           a control part operable to record information to  
8   and/or reproduce information from the information recording  
9   medium.

1           **Claim 38 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2   claim 37, said cartridge control device further comprising  
3   a second device operable to prevent incorrect insertion of  
4   the cartridge into said second cartridge storage part.

1           **Claim 39 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2   claim 38, said second device being operable to determine  
3   that the cartridge has been inserted into said second  
4   cartridge storage part in an incorrect orientation.

1           **Claim 40 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2   claim 39, the cartridge being inserted into said second  
3   cartridge storage part in a correct orientation when the  
4   cartridge is inserted from its foreside into said second  
5   cartridge storage part.

1           **Claim 41 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2   claim 38, said second device containing a projection for  
3   preventing the incorrect insertion of the cartridge into  
4   the said second cartridge storage part, wherein a notch  
5   provided on a corner of the cartridge must be aligned with  
6   said projection for correct insertion.

1           **Claim 42 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2   claim 33, further comprising a lid which is closed when the  
3   cartridge is stored in the cartridge storage space, and  
4   when said determining part determines that the cartridge is  
5   not inserted into the cartridge storage space in a correct  
6   orientation, said lid does not close.

1           **Claim 43 (new):** A cartridge changer as claimed in  
2   claim 33, further comprising a display part operable to  
3   display that an orientation of a cartridge is incorrect  
4   when said determining part determines that the cartridge is  
5   not inserted into the cartridge storage space in a correct  
6   orientation.